

LAW OFFICE OF J. G. TOTH

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Flushing,N.Y.11355

May 27, 2025

New York City Department of Education
Impartial Hearing Office
131 Livingston Street, Room 201
Fax (718) 935 2528
Brooklyn, New York 11201

VESID
(NYS Education Dept. Office of
Vocational and Educational Services)
for Individuals with Disabilities
One Commerce Plaza R, 1624,
Albany, N.Y. 12234

**COMPLAINT REQUESTING PENDENCY ORDER
Following Parents Request for Review of case # 284080**

Student's name:	Henry Terence Toth ("Terence")
NYCID:	224465203
Student's address:	43-32 Kissena Blvd.15B, Flushing, N.Y.11355
Student's date of birth:	October 2, 2007
Student attends:	Private school.
Name of school:	Gersh Academy, 307 Eagle Rd. West Hempstead, N.Y. Tel.: 6303853342x40 (Att.Yvonne Waskiewicz).
Contact Information for Parent:	Mira Toth, 43-32 KissenaBlvd.15B Flushing, N.Y. 11355 mira.toth@gmail.com (requests email notification of scheduled hearings). mira.toth@gmail.com (917)5025308(cell)
Primary home language:	English.
Date of current IEP:	For the 2024-2025 academic year, the DOE held no IEP meeting, issued no IEP.

INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiff Jerry Toth, on behalf of his minor child Terence Toth brings this proceeding seeking a pendency order under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C.A. § 1415(j), obligating the New York City Department of Education to maintain the student's current educational placement during the pendency of an administrative action.

RELEVANT FACTS

2. In cases #173630, 211081, 230169, covering the years from 2017 to 2023 academic years, the DOE did not present a case. In each proceeding, IHO's ruled that the DOE had denied a FAPE.

3. Similarly for the 2023-2024 academic year the DOE issued a March 2024 IEP. Again, the DOE did not put on a case. The DOE conceded Prong I.

4. The IHO's Decision found the DOE denied the student a FAPE.

Accordingly the IEP was not implemented. The IHO's order superseded the IEP:

“...I find that the equities support Parent’s request for funding of Tuition at Private School and school-based speech-language therapy along with 1:1 home-based ABA therapy for the 12-month 2023-2024 school year.”

5. For the 2024-2025 academic year, in case #284080, the IHO denied all services the student was receiving. The IHO found that parents failed to sustain parents' burden of proof that the private school and home based services were appropriate.

6. On 5/13/2025 parents filed a Request for Review. During the pendency of

that appeal, and any additional litigation or further appeal, the parents request a pendency order.

DISCUSSION

An automatic injunction protects pendency.

7. The IDEA's pendency provision states that "during the pendency of any proceedings conducted pursuant to this section, unless the State or local educational agency and the parents otherwise agree, the child shall remain in [his] then-current educational placement." 20 U.S.C. § 1415(j). The IDEA's pendency provision aims to ensure stability and consistency in the Student's education during the pendency of proceedings.

8. "Pendency has the effect of an automatic injunction, which is imposed without regard to such factors as irreparable harm, likelihood of success on the merits, and a balancing of the hardships." *Arlington Cent. Sch. Dist. v. L.P.*, 421 F. Supp. 2d 692, 696 (S.D.N.Y. 2006).

9. The pendency provision "reflects Congress's decision that all disabled children should keep their existing educational program until any dispute over their placement is resolved. *T.M. ex rel. A.M. v. Cornwall Cent. Sch. Dist.*, 752 F.3d 145, 170 (2d Cir. 2014) (citing *Mackey ex rel. Thomas M. v. Bd. of Educ.*, 386 F.3d 158, 160–61 (2d Cir. 2004

10. In *Gabel ex rel. L.G. v. Bd. of Educ. of Hyde Park Cent. Sch. Dist.*, 368 F. Supp. 2d 313, 324 (S.D.N.Y. 2005) the SDNY held that a settlement agreement

superseded the last operative IEP. The Court noted that “[t]he purpose of the pendency provision is to provide stability and consistency in the education of a student with a disability” Id.

ARGUMENT

The Decision in case # 248309 defines the student’s pendency.

11. Concerning pendency, the inquiry is limited to “identifying the student’s then-current educational placement.” *Arlington Cent. Sch. Dist.*, 421 F. Supp. 2d at 696 (citing *Zvi D. v. Ambach*, 694 F.2d 904, 906 (2d Cir. 1982)).

12. A student’s then-current educational placement has been understood to mean: “(1) typically the placement described in the child’s most recently implemented IEP [Individualized Education Program]; (2) the operative placement actually functioning at the time...when the stay put provision of the IDEA was invoked; and (3) the placement at the time of the previously implemented IEP.”

Mackey ex rel. Thomas M. v. Bd. of Educ. For Arlington Cent. Sch. Dist., 386 F.3d 158, 163 (2d Cir.), supplemented sub nom. *Mackey v. Bd. of Educ. for Arlington Cent. Sch. Dist.*, 112 F. App’x 89 (2d Cir. 2004) (internal quotations, citations, and alterations omitted).

13. In *Gabel ex rel. L.G. v. Bd. of Educ. of Hyde Park Cent. Sch. Dist.*, supra, the SDNY held that a settlement agreement superseded the last operative IEP. The 4/2/2024 Decision of IHO Edward Perkins, Esq. defines the “operative placement actually functioning at the time,” which, can constitute a student’s then-current educational placement. *Mackey*, 386 F.3d at 163.

CONCLUSIONS

14. For the forgoing reasons the parents request a pendency order obligating the DOE to maintain the Student's educational placement as outlined in the Decision in case # 248309.

Dated: May 27, 2025.

Jerry Toth

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Complaint requesting pendency following 5/13/2025 Request for Review

Jerry Toth <tothjerry1@gmail.com>
To: Impartial Hearing Office <IHOQUEST@schools.nyc.gov>
Bcc: Mira Toth <mira.toth@gmail.com>

Tue, May 27, 2025 at 11:41 PM

Dear Impartial Hearing Office:

Please find attached parents complaint seeking a pendency order following parents filing of an appeal with the SRO.

May you please assign a docket number and a hearing officer?

Your valuable assistance is highly appreciated."

Thank you,

Jerry Toth, Attorney for Parents

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Complaint Pendency 2024-2025.pdf
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